

and bank materials are well sorted with sand and gravel predominant in this reach. Near the upper end of the reach bank materials transition to silt and fine sand which appear to be beaver pond deposits. Channel widening is causing undercutting and bank failure of these fine grained banks, however the bank heights, at about 1 m, and the shortness of the reach indicates this area is probably not a great supplier of fine grained material. Overall the fine-sediment availability in this reach is considered to be low due to the coarseness of available material and aggradational nature of the reach.



Figure 4-16. Gravel-bedded aggrading reach composed of well-sorted gravel is rated “low” due to low bank heights, and coarse bed and bank material. Middle of the meandering pool-riffle reach above the golf course.

The stream crossing a moraine marks the intersection of the Upper Truckee River and Highway 50 above Meyers the beginning of the alternating meadow/moraine reach. The channel contains boulders up to 5 m in diameter immediately upstream of the bridge. The 0.5 km upstream contains sporadic locations of high bank erosion, where boulders have eroded out of the till, but do not defend the banks from high flows (hotspots 30 to 32, Table 4-7). The banks at these locations tend to be high, 3 to 4 m, and the boulders also serve to catch large woody debris which exacerbates local scour. Transitioning from the upper end of the moraine to the meadow reach, bank heights become lower and the channel is predominantly bedded with gravel with fewer boulders.

The channel is bordered by broad relatively flat flood plains (Hotspots 32 to 37, Table 4-7). Land use is residential and pasture. Banks range from 1 to 2 m-high. Their composition varies from silt and sand to sand and gravel. Occasionally outside bends are sloughing and occasional large woody debris initiates bank scour. Due to the coarseness of material and low banks the overall fine-sediment availability is considered moderate (Figure 4-17).